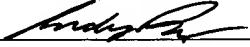


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL"

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 10/29/2004.

  
Andy T. Pho

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application for:

Steven Teig

Serial No.: 09/739,589

Filing Date: 12/15/2000

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS  
FOR PRE-COMPUTING AND  
USING MULTIPLE  
PLACEMENT COST  
ATTRIBUTES TO QUANTIFY  
THE QUALITY OF A  
PLACEMENT  
CONFIGURATION WITHIN A  
PARTITIONED REGION

Examiner: Annette Thompson

Group Art Unit: 2825

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated 06/29/2004, please amend the patent application as

follows:

**Amendment to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.